



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 6/3/2002

GAIN Report #MX2090

Mexico

Agricultural Situation

Mexico's Monthly Crop Update, May 2002 2002

Approved by:
William L. Brant
U.S. Embassy Mexico
Prepared by:
Benjamin Juarez

Report Highlights:

SAGARPA has revised downward its sorghum production estimate for the spring/summer 2002 harvest to 1.850 MMT. This would seem to augur well for U.S. sorghum exports, as they are not subject to import requirements, unlike U.S. corn.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Mexico [MX1], MX

The tables below represent the most recent official data published by Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries, and Foodstuffs (SAGARPA). USDA does not necessarily concur with SAGARPA's data; however, it is used in these tables so that readers may have a consistent data source as a basis for their analysis. FAS/Mexico's numbers may ultimately vary significantly from those presented below because of input from non-SAGARPA sources.

FORECAST FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2002 HARVEST

Crop	Planting Intention Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 has)	Already Planted Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 has)	Projected Production Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 MT)	Production Harvested Spring/Summer 2002 (1000 MT)
CORN	988	974	3,673	538
SORGHUM	962	933	1,850	264
WHEAT	579	557	2,861	289
COTTON*	34	-	-	-
SOYBEANS	4	1	1	-
TOTAL	2,567	2,465	8,385	1,091

* Area on all tables is based on cotton lint (not cottonseed); SAGARPA reports area for the primary crop (i.e., cotton). The production estimate, however, is for cotton seed (there is a separate estimate for fiber which is reported in our annual and voluntary cotton reports).

SOURCE: SAGARPA as of April 30, 2002

COMMENT:

Sorghum: SAGARPA has finally reduced its projected production numbers. Reportedly, SAGARPA officials, along with private buyers (members of the feed and poultry industry, among others), traveled to the main growing zones of Tamaulipas in order to have a better estimate of production for the 2002 spring/summer harvest. According to official sources, the lack of water availability and early-season drought conditions reduced the yields that had been previously estimated. At the same time, industry sources believe Tamaulipas sorghum production could be reduced further. Nevertheless, at this time, this office is maintaining the current PS&D estimates (see MX 2037). Tamaulipas is the leading sorghum producing state in Mexico for the spring/summer harvest. For the other crops, SAGARPA reports that harvest is keeping pace as scheduled.

In May 2002, SAGARPA released its "Planting Intentions Program and Production Estimate" for the fall/winter 2002/03 harvest. The comparison between these estimates and the area effectively planted and production obtained during the same period last year is as follows:

**FORECAST FOR FALL/WINTER 2002/03 HARVEST AND
FINAL RESULT FOR THE FALL/WINTER 2001/02 HARVEST**

Crop	Area Planted Fall/ Winter 2001/02 (1000 has)	Area Harvested Fall/ Winter 2001/02 (1000 has)	Production Harvested Fall/ Winter 2001/02 (1000 MT)	Planting Intention Fall/ Winter 2002/03 (1000 has)	Projected Production Fall/ Winter 2002/03 (1000 MT)
CORN	7,551	6,881	16,362	7,263	15,742
SORGHUM	1,153	1,067	4,326	1,142	3,972
WHEAT	115	111	241	145	287
COTTON*	84	82	148	73	162
SOYBEANS	45	44	65	109	199
TOTAL	8,948	8,185	21,142	8,732	20,362

* Area on all tables based on cotton lint (not cottonseed); SAGARPA reports area for the primary crop, i.e., cotton. The production estimate, however, is for cotton seed (there is a separate estimate for fiber which is reported in our annual and voluntary cotton reports).

SOURCE: SAGARPA as of April, 2002

FAS/MEXICO'S COMMENTS: As reflected in the table above, the upcoming fall/winter 2001/02 harvest will produce approximately 20.4 MMT of basic grains and oilseeds. In the previous crop, Mexico harvested 21.1 MMT. According to SAGARPA sources, this decrease will be consequence of decreased planted area and low water stored in the country's reservoirs. Growers traditionally plant their fall/winter crop from April to September. Harvesting activities are predominately concentrated during the month of November to January. FAS/Mexico is maintaining the current PS&D numbers (see MX2037; MX 2055 and MX2077).